interception, diversion and treatment of domestic sewage. Beside these, the plan includes setting up of Low Cost toilets, Crematoria and River Front Facilities. Under the Phase-I of this plan, a capacity for treating 60 mld of sewage has been created in Allahabad. Under GAP Phase-II, 6 schemes amounting to Rs. 31.55 crores have been sanctioned for creating a capacity of treating 29 mld of sewage. The U.P. Pollution Control Board has issued directions under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to 29 industries to immediately stop discharge of coloured effluent into river Ganga. In addition, 15 tannery units in Jajmau, Kanpur and one paper mill in Ghaziabad, have been closed down. Directions have also been issued for proper operation of Common Effluent Treatment Plant and Sewage Treatment Plant at Jajmau, Kanpur.

Illegal mining in Aravali mountain range

†617. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that environment of Delhi and Haryana is severely affected due to illegal mining of Aravali mountain range;

(b) whether Government have received any report from environmentalists in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to stop such illegal mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir. As per Government of Haryana, there is no illegal mining taking place in Aravali mountain range of Haryana. The Government of NCT of Delhi have also reported that no mining is being permitted in the Ridge area which are extension of Aravali mountain range in Delhi.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Strict vigil is being maintained by both the State Governments to ensure that no illegal mining takes place in their respective areas. Joint

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

patrolling is also being done by the Forest and Police Departments in Delhi. Forest Department of NCT of Delhi has also hired the services of ex-servicemen for this task and Eco Task Force/territorial Army ensures protection against mining in Bhatti mines areas.

Death of birds in Okhla Bird Sanctuary

†618. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that more than fifty birds have died just in one day in Okhla Bird Sanctuary in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the water of Yamuna in Delhi has not only become polluted but also has gone poisonous at some places; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No deaths of birds have been reported from Delhi. However, death of fifty three birds in February, 2006 has been reported by Government of Uttar Pradesh from Okhla Bird Sanctuary.

(b) and (c)There is no report regarding poisonous status of water of Yamuna. However, to atackle the water pollution in the river Yamuna, the Ministry has implemented the Yamuna Action Plan, Phase-I during 1993-2003. A pollution load of 740.75 Million Litres Per Day (MLD) was tackled in the Phase-I. Phase II of the Yamuna action Plan commenced from December 2004 and aims at minimizing pollution of the river Yamuna along the Delhi and Agra stretches.

New cleaning plan for Yamuna

619. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a new 'clean up' plan for Yamuna; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating, the extent of funds required for the purpose, time required therefor, the stretches of the river proposed to be cleaned, etc.?

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.